

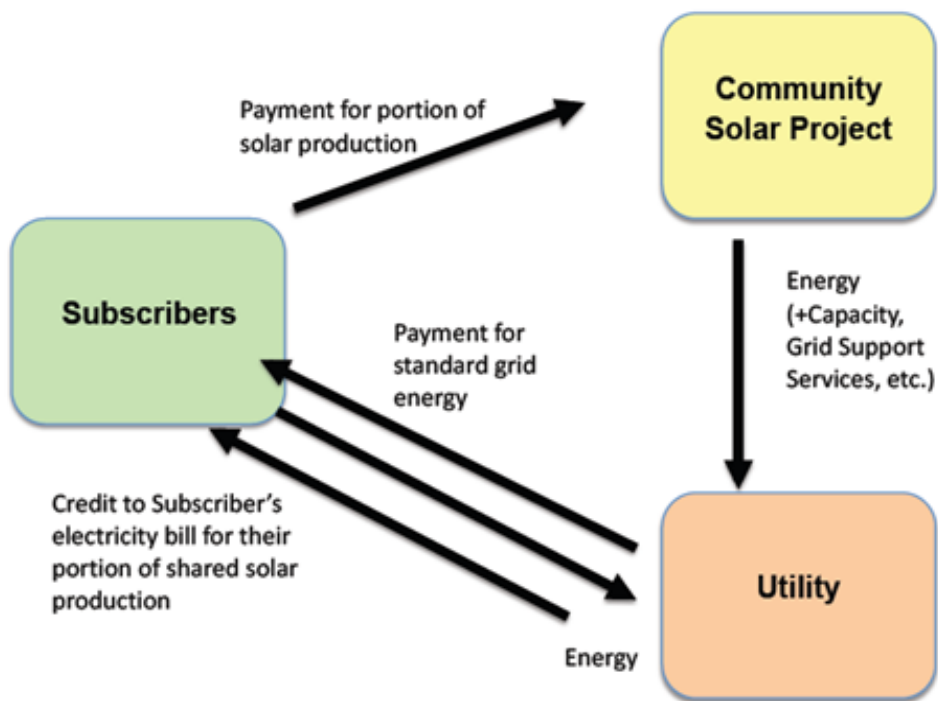
Community Solar

BRIEF SUMMARY

Community solar is a solar system that generates energy for multiple energy consumers. They literally share the energy produced from one big system. Community solar generating systems can benefit neighborhoods in many different ways. They can be installed on the roof of an apartment building, a community center, a church or even in an open field.

This is not a new concept. Community solar already exists in other states (California, Colorado, Delaware, Massachusetts, Minnesota, New Hampshire, Vermont) as well as the District of Columbia, and more than 52 shared renewable projects have come online in 17 different states.

HOW IT WORKS



KEY ELEMENTS

- Generates energy for multiple consumers
- Creates opportunities for ALL Maryland residents to benefit from solar energy.
- Allows low-income citizens, renters, and those who are unable to install solar energy on their own homes or businesses the choice to participate in Maryland's successful solar programs.
- Supports the Maryland solar community and Maryland's solar small businesses, a sector that already has over 3,000 full-time jobs.



MDV-SEIA

BENEFITS OF COMMUNITY SOLAR

- Creates opportunities for ALL Maryland residents to benefit from solar energy.
- Allows low-income citizens, renters, and those who are unable to install solar energy on their own homes or businesses the choice to participate in Maryland's successful solar programs.
- Supports the Maryland solar community and Maryland's solar small businesses, a sector that already has over 2500 full-time jobs.
- Increases Maryland investment opportunities, after the \$113 million invested in Maryland solar in 2013.
- Increases energy production during peak demand periods when electricity is most needed.
- Contributes to Maryland's goal of providing a cleaner and safer environment for all its residents.

The Rest of Maryland

Rooftop Solar



Works for
~20%



~80%

left in the dark

All images and diagrams courtesy of The Vote Solar Initiative. For more information, contact Jessica Ennis (Earthjustice) at jennis@earthjustice.org, Robin Dutta (MDV-SEIA) at rdutta@nextility.com or Dave O'Leary (Sierra Club) at dave.oleary@mdsierra.org.

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